

**CITY OF REED CITY**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**August 16, 2021**

Mayor Meinert called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 227 E. Lincoln Avenue, Reed City, Michigan.

- Present Mayor, Roger Meinert. Council Members: Nathan Bailey, Dan Burchett, Trevor Guiles, Russell Nehmer, Brad Nixon and Nicole Woodside. City Attorney, David Porteous and City Manager, Ron Howell, were also in attendance. Department Heads attending were, Rich Rehkopf, Jeffrey Stein, Curt Brackenrich, Barbara Westerburg and Police Chief, Chris Lockhart. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag. There were citizens in the audience.
- Agenda Motion by Guiles, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to approve the Agenda as presented. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Minutes Motion by Guiles, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to accept the minutes of the July 19, 2021 regular meeting as presented. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Motion by Burchett, seconded by Woodside, **CARRIED**, to accept the minutes of the August 4, 2021 Special Meeting as presented. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Bills Motion by Nixon, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to approve paying bills as presented for payment for a grand total approved amount of \$217,855.19. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Nixon, Meinert, Guiles, Burchett, Nehmer, Bailey and Woodside.
- Audience Jamie McCoy, of Great American Crossroads Celebration, appeared to update council on the events for the festival and also request changing the time of closing off Higbee Street on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, to 6:00 A.M. instead of 7:00 A.M. for the craft show.
- Festival Motion by Guiles, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to approve the closing off of Higbee Street at 6:00 A.M. on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup> for the craft show. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Audience Deanna Murphy, of Reed City Brewing Company, addressed council to request permission to close down S. Higbee Street on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 A.M. until September 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. for their Second Annual Oktoberfest/Anniversary Party. There will be outside music and they also requested a variance until 11:00 P.M. to the noise ordinance.
- Oktoberfest Motion by Woodside, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to allow Reed City Brewing Company to close S. Higbee at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, September 25, 2021 and reopen it on Sunday, September 26, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. for their Second Annual Oktoberfest and anniversary party and to allow a variance to the noise ordinance until 11:00 P.M. on Saturday, September 25, 2021. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Grant Motion by Bailey, seconded by Woodside, **CARRIED**, to accept the grant from TransCanada in the amount of \$3,599.00 for thermal imaging equipment for the Police Department. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Meinert, Guiles, Bailey, Nehmer, Woodside, Nixon and Burchett.
- Fire Dept. Chief Stein gave an update on the re-chassis of Tender 2. It is being put on hold right now as the City cannot increase their debt or enter into another loan at this time. Once Engine 1 is totally paid for in February of 2022, Chief Stein will approach council to re-bid the re-chassis of Tender 2. Chief Stein advised council the grass rig which burnt in the fire is being deemed as an electrical fire. ServPro is currently cleaning the apparatus bays and walls getting the smell out of there. Once that is done the carpets in the meeting room will also be cleaned. ServPro is working up a quote for the south end for structural engineering for any type of construction that they feel will need done. Attorney Porteous advised there would need to be a bid process for any construction. The insurance has deemed the truck to be worth \$20,000.00. When time comes to replace the grass rig, Chief Stein would like to purchase a truck with a dual roll of being used as a backup rescue truck too.

- Reports Chief Jeffrey Stein, Fire Dept., Police Chief Christopher Lockhart, Rich Rehkopf, DPW, and Curt Brackenrich, WWTP, filed written reports.
- Motion by Bailey, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to approve the Department Head reports as submitted. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Late Applicants Motion by Nixon, seconded by Guiles, **CARRIED**, to deny the late applications received for the City Manager position. Affirmed by voice vote.
- City Manager Motion by Guiles, seconded by Woodside, **CARRIED**, to extend the offer to Richard Saladin for the City Manager position and direct the search committee to negotiate a proposed package. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Nixon, Meinert, Guiles, Nehmer and Woodside. Bailey voted no. Burchett abstained.
- RC Group Motion by Guiles, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to move forward with the IFT process on the application received from Reed City Group. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Overband Seal Motion by Guiles, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to approve the bid from Highway Maintenance & Construction Co. in the amount of \$13,125.00 for overband Crack Seal at Chestnut Street and E. Church Avenue. Roll call vote. Voting yes were Nehmer, Bailey, Meinert, Guiles, Burchett, Woodside and Nixon.
- Disc Golf The Reed City Disc Golf Club is ready to seek donation funding for advertising, maintenance and operations of the course but do not want to run into any conflicts with the City. Dan Burchett says they want to go out as a club and get the donations. They will take care of the money as it comes in and it would be put in an account. The City will not have to worry about anything out there as far as maintenance. The club would do the mowing, weed whacking, and fix the baskets. They will buy the garbage cans and the benches all through the funding that they will receive. Attorney Porteous suggested a legal entity be created for liability reasons and entering into an agreement with the City.
- Parks & Rec Council reviewed a summary of the Parks & Recreation budget emphasizing the labor hours it takes to maintain the properties. Councilman Guiles stated the Planning Commission is questioning if the Parks should drop off from the DPW and have their own department. Rich Rehkopf suggested hiring his department a person and dedicating them to the parks and when things are caught up there, this person can help with the DPW work. Mayor Meinert spoke of volunteers who participated in Refresh Reed City and mentioned maybe Rich could take on a group for a work day to beautify the parks. Rich commented that Betty Newell takes care of the flowers down at the Depot, and wanted to publicly thank Terry Gerber, Jim Thompson (the milk hauler), for power washing all the pavers with names on them, and Holly Gerber and Karen Wright, for all the weeding and taking care of the flowers while Betty was on vacation.
- Fire Contract Motion by Guiles, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to approve the Agreement for Fire/Medical Services with Richmond Township for 2021/2022 in the amount of \$59,060.24 as presented and the Agreement for Fire/Medical Services with Chase Township for 2021/2022 in the amount of \$39,181.27 as presented and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Bailey, Burchett, Nixon, Guiles, Meinert, Nehmer and Woodside.
- 9:00 P.M. It was a consensus to schedule a special meeting prior to August 30<sup>th</sup> to finish the remainder of the Agenda.
- Ext. meeting Motion by Guiles, seconded by Bailey, **CARRIED**, to extend the meeting to hear from the Splash Pad Committee in attendance. Affirmed by voice vote.

- Audience** Ellen Finkbeiner, stated the Splash Pad committee has people who want to donate money for a splash pad and the Westerburg Park site does not have city water so they are open to other suggestions for a location change. It was suggested they look at the old Farmer's Market area on the side of Pompeii's. Rich offered the old DPW storage building there to be converted into a public restroom. The committee will go visit the site and get back with council.
- Lyndsey Eccles-Burchett, announced the District Library is having an open house tomorrow from 11:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M. for their new Director, Melissa Rohen.
- Council** Roger Meinert reminded everyone this is Crossroads festival weekend and to get out and celebrate our community. He also reminded everyone the grand opening for the museum is this weekend as well.
- Trevor Guiles invited everyone to Rambadt Park for Praise in the Park on Sunday at 6:00 P.M. and stated there will be food!
- Adjourn** Mayor Meinert adjourned the meeting at 9:12 P.M.

Jacalyn R. Beam, City Clerk